

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

NATURAL PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION,)	
)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	Case No. 8:21-cv-03112-TDC
)	
v.)	
)	
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION;)	
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN)	
SERVICES; XAVIER BECERRA, in his official)	
capacity as Secretary of the Department of)	
Health and Human Services; and)	
JANET WOODCOCK, M.D., in her official)	
capacity as Acting Commissioner of Food)	
and Drugs,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

JOINT MOTION TO EXTEND DEADLINES

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 4, 12 and 15, Plaintiff, Natural Products Association (“NPA”), and defendants, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Xavier Becerra, in his official capacity as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Janet Woodcock, M.D., in her official capacity as Acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs (collectively referred to as “Defendants”), by counsel, file this joint motion to set certain deadlines in the case as follows.

1. On December 6, 2022, NPA filed the Complaint against Defendants for declaratory and injunctive relief in connection with a product called N-acetyl-L-cysteine.
2. Defendants acknowledge that they have been served with the summons and complaint and that Defendants’ answer or other response to the Complaint would be due on February 14, 2022.

3. The parties have met and conferred by telephone regarding scheduling issues in the case.

4. The parties have reached an agreement on scheduling and submit this joint motion to the Court for an Order with the following terms:

- a. Defendants need not file an answer or response to the original Complaint by February 14, 2022.
- b. On or before February 21, 2022, NPA will file an unopposed First Amended Complaint in this case.
- c. Defendants' answer or other response will be due within 21 days from the date of service of the First Amended Complaint.

5. Nothing contained in this joint motion will preclude NPA from seeking agreement of the parties or leave of Court to file a further amended complaint.

6. The parties believe that granting the joint motion is in the interest of judicial economy. No party would be unfairly prejudiced.

7. The parties respectfully request that the Court grant the joint motion. A proposed order is attached.

Dated: February 7, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Richard J. Oparil

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